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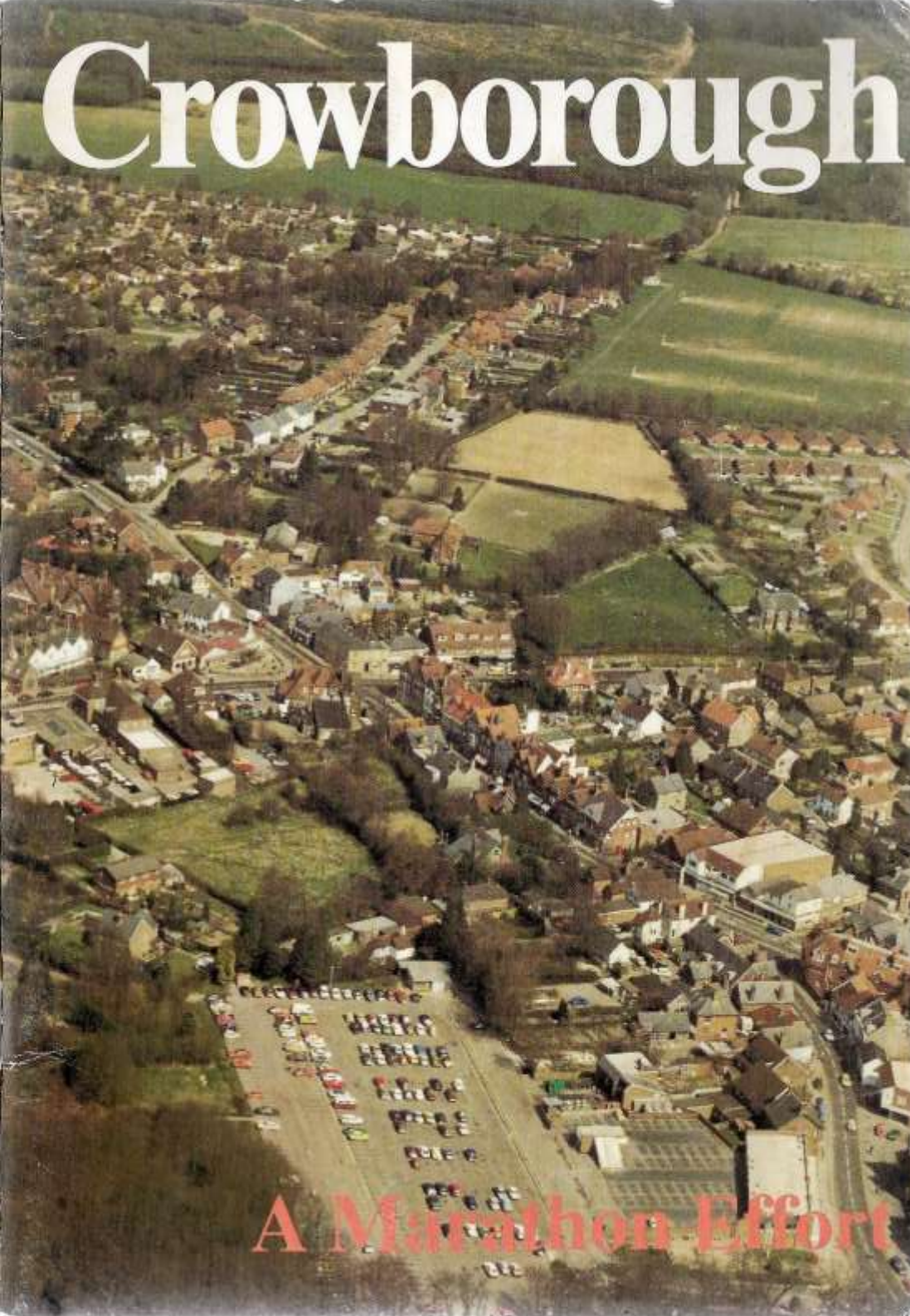

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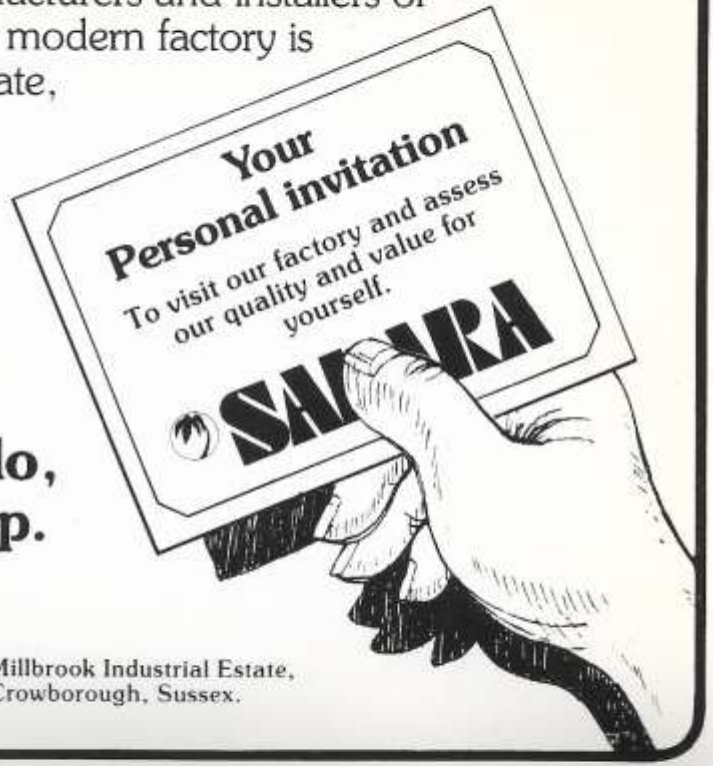

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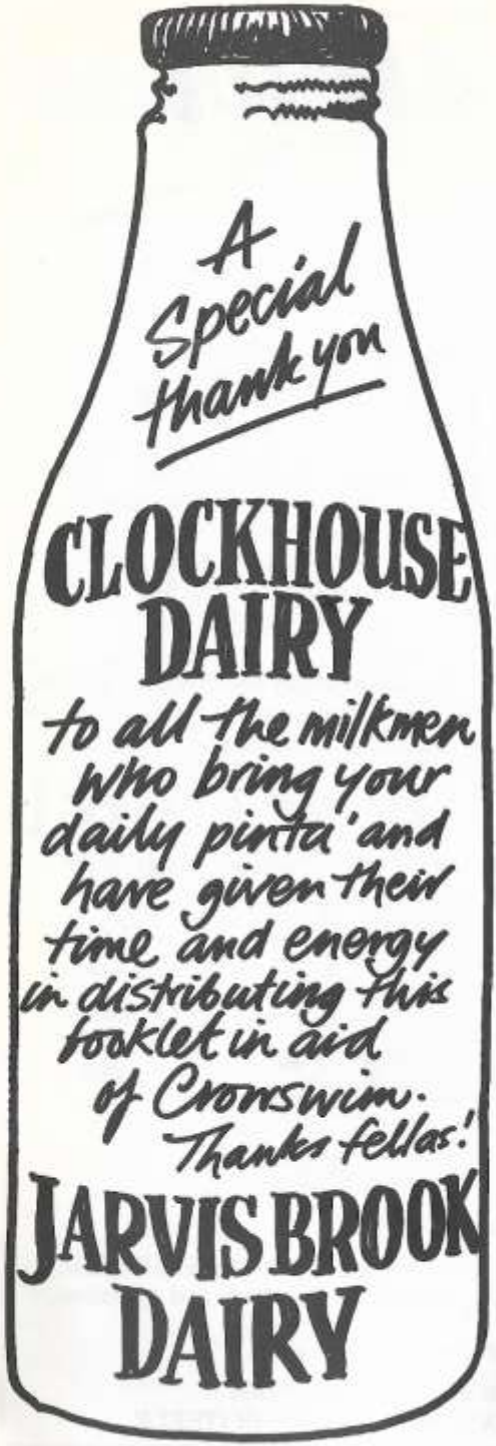
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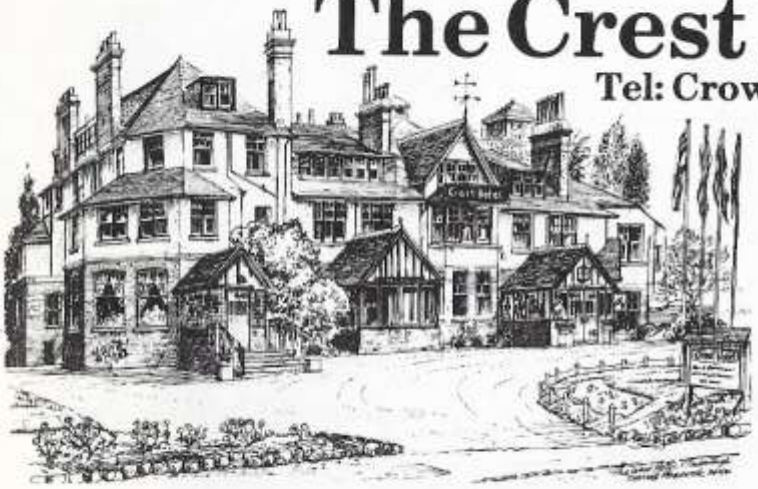

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Bill Pickering
President Rotary Club

We have 6 runners participating in the London Marathon 1984. A wonderful record for a small town like Crowborough. We of the Rotary Club are proud to associate with them in an effort to raise funds for the new Crowborough Swimming Pool particularly as one of our members will be puffing his way around the 26 miles on May 13th. We wish him and the others all success.

We hope that our effort in placing our Crowborough "Marathon Effort" before you will produce a substantial sum towards the Crowswim fund for the new pool.

Leisure time is steadily increasing and a major problem will be the occupation of this new freedom. If boredom is allowed to creep in then all sorts of unsocial activities arise. The provision of the Swimming Pool and Leisure Centre etc. will do a great deal to combat boredom but what is more desirable it will increase fitness in all age groups from pram to pensions — Yes it is an investment in a heathier future in many ways.

How can you help — well it is really simple. Our booklet now in your hands has been distributed by the kindness of your local dairy man. In the course of a few days a representative of the Rotary Club will call upon you to accept your contribution to the 'Tile Fund'.

You will find details of the 'Tiles' in the book. We hope to sell all our 'Tiles' at a minimum price of 25p. but any contribution will be gratefully received.

Please give as generously as you can to this investment in Crowborough future.

Thank you in anticipation

Best wishes to CROWSWIM from
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Eric Panton
Chairman of Crowswim,

answers some of the questions which have arisen most often during the Campaign so far.

Will the Pool be available to ALL?
Yes it will be a PUBLIC POOL open for use by anyone. It is hoped to incorporate features such as a movable floor, which will also enable the very young and the disabled to enjoy the facilities.

How big will it be?
To ensure maximum benefit for both leisure and competitive swimming, we aim for a Pool 25 metres x 12½ metres.

Where does the money raised for CROWSWIM go?
All contributions are paid into a separately designated bank account.

Can it be used for any other purpose?
No. This is a condition of our status as a CHARITY.

If I make a covenant and can't keep up the payments, what will happen?
The covenant will be cancelled and you will be under no further liability.

Why are covenants better than donations?
Because as a CHARITY we can re-claim 43 pence Tax from the Inland Revenue for every £1.00 covenanted.
Also Wealden District Council will release their £509,000 when we hit the TARGET of £175,000 which will include all sums promised, although the total money has not yet been received.

Does the inflation increase recently announced by Wealden District Council affect Crowborough?
Yes, but when the TARGET was set, account was taken of inflation — it is still £175,000.

How about Hailsham and Uckfield?
Their Targets for the public contribution have gone up from £120,000 to £127,000.

How much have they raised?
It is difficult to be precise, but the latest published figures are Hailsham £17,500 and Uckfield £32,500.

Why is there a race?
Because Wealden can probably only fund one Pool in a financial year.

Will the losers get a Pool?
Yes, if funds are available once they have reached their Target in the light of increased building costs.

Will Crowborough win the race?
YES, provided the level of support given so far is maintained.

When will the Pool be built?
Work should start later this year and be completed next.

Who can I get in touch with to donate or make my covenant?
Please contact me on Crowborough 3750, our Treasurer, Derek Backshall, of 19 Barnfield, Crowborough 2403
or any other member of our Committee, Jenny Gorringe 3019, Brian Austin 5500, Tom Price 4971 or David Reeves 5352.

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John Hyem
Chairman
Crowborough Athletic Club

On behalf of the Crowborough Athletic Club I am delighted that our Club has been able to secure five entries in the London Marathon and that they are being sponsored in aid of Crowswim.

As the largest inland town of East Sussex it is right that Crowborough should have facilities for the widest possible range of sporting activities. We in the Athletic Club support all those clubs who wish to raise money for their sporting activities and particularly those who support the development of the Goldsmith Recreation Ground where these sporting activities can benefit the whole community and bring a togetherness amongst those who participate.

Crowborough Athletic Club was formed in September 1982 from a few enthusiastic runners who completed the London Marathon in the previous May. Little did we know of the hidden talent we had in Crowborough and within a very short period of time the Club started to develope in a multitude of different directions. We started with a few Fun Running Joggers and now we have added runners from age 11 upwards many of whom are quite useful runners and some very good indeed. We are not a Marathon Runners Club and I am pleased to say we have members running all different distances and speeds.

A typical club week will include a variety of training runs plus some specialist gym training for the more dedicated runners and hardly a week goes by without some club members participating in an event of some kind.

The three best all round stamina sports which are good for the heart and circulation are running, swimming and cycling. Many runners turn to swimming when recovering from injury in order to keep their fitness up to scratch.

The Athletic Club is open to runners of all ages over 11 and of any ability and new members are welcome. New members do not have to run alone unless they choose to do so as there are bound to be other runners in the Club who will run with them.

Please support our runners who are raising money for the Crowborough Swimming Pool. When sponsoring them do not just think of the 26 miles 385 yards they will run on Marathon Day but also the hours of training and over 1,000 miles of running they will have done to get fit for the day. Let the pool be a Crowborough Pool, built and paid for by Crowborough people — please give generously.

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our **LIGHTEN THEIR LOAD** collectors will be calling shortly and will invite you to "buy tiles" on a specially printed sheet, which you may then keep as a permanent souvenir.

if our collectors have not called by 19th May, sheets of **LIGHTEN THEIR LOAD** tiles are available at Nat West Bank, Crowborough — where you may leave a donation if you prefer.

all proceeds will be collected by Crowborough Rotary for Crowswim

CROWSWIM'S "MARATHON" EFFORTS HAVE ALREADY RAISED

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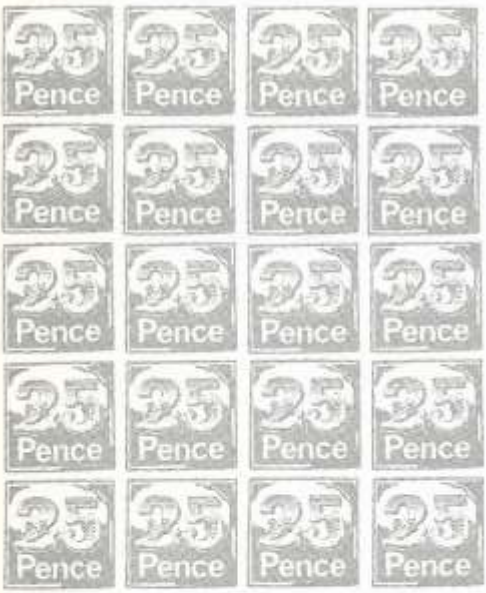

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Looking ahead.....

It would be reasonable to assume that the future of Crowborough lies in its ability to consolidate the current trends with regard to housing, light industry, community facilities and the encouragement of visitors to a thriving community.

The current housing development in Blackness will provide approximately 750 new houses, thereby adding a possible 2,500 residents to the present population. It is likely that by 1990 the gross population of Crowborough will be in excess of 25,000. Since the 1960's there has been a dramatic increase in the Town's housing stock and population and whilst many people still commute to work many have found local employment, thus bringing about a gradual sense of belonging and maturity. The Town's main light industrial sites are at Millbrook, the former brickworks site and the E.S.C.C. depot at Park Road. It would be of great benefit for these sites to be fully occupied by suitable small industries employing local labour. Such occupation would undoubtedly further the process of maturity and stability required by a community that has grown as quickly as has Crowborough in such a short space of time. The importance of job opportunities for Crowborough's school leavers cannot be over-emphasised — thus thriving local industries are a very necessary adjunct to the future. The new shopping precinct will, hopefully, provide many permanent jobs and cause the too-many empty shops in the Town Centre to become permanently occupied. The retail community, in addition to light industrial and commercial activities, is a vital component of the Town's future prosperity.

Community facilities, apart from open space, have been grossly under-provided in the past. The development of the Goldsmith Recreation Ground by the Crowborough Parish Council represents a significant step forward for the future. Whilst the programme may be considered sports orientated, the overall development will include several features of interest to families. The Sports Hall will cater for a multiplicity of indoor sporting activities whilst the two halls may be made available at appropriate times for non-sporting activities. The spectacular views from the balcony and social areas will attract many. The addition of a swimming pool will benefit old and young alike — the active and the not so active. Outdoor sports will be catered for and it is intended to provide modern play equipment to enable the children of those using the Centre to be accommodated — thus providing facilities for family groups.

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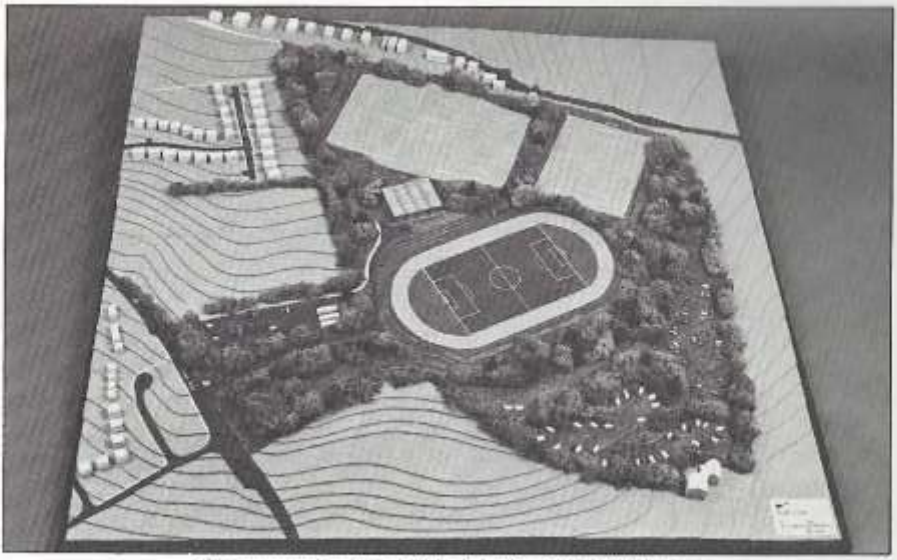

Photograph of Scale Model of Leisure Centre

The inclusion of a touring caravan/camping site will provide a much needed facility in the area and the revenue therefrom will, without doubt, benefit not only the Leisure Centre but also the retail community. Crowborough grew on its early tourists. It is said that there were once 14 hotels in Crowborough plus many guest houses, visitors being attracted by the Town's altitude, proximity to the Ashdown Forest and easy access by rail. The natural attractions still remain, hotel accommodation is now reduced to one premises. "Each year more and more visitors from Holland, France and Germany travel through Crowborough seeking short-stay accommodation in the modern mode of caravans and tents. Thus, the provision of the touring caravan and camping site is envisaged as a first step to accommodate the new tourists for the benefit of visitors and town alike.

What, therefore, will the future of Crowborough be? It would not be difficult to visualise Crowborough in the 1990's as being a compact, united and affluent community, having a sound commercial, retail and light industrial base, providing secure employment for many of its inhabitants — well represented local organisations — effective and forward-looking local government and, above all, a community spirit such as is seen demonstrated by the support always given to the local hospital, the support given by all the PTA's to their Schools and the tremendous public response to the current appeal for funds for the proposed swimming pool. In the words of the Chairman of the Crowborough Parish Council 'A Crowborough for Crowborough, by Crowborough (visitors most welcome)'.

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Our Hospital

The Friends of Crowborough Hospital exist to provide the extras that the Health Authority cannot provide, which seems to be less and less these days. We are sure that you will have heard the good news that Mothers may still have their babies at Crowborough Hospital and that the Operating Theatre is to be used again for general anaesthesia. Those of you who are new to the area will probably not be aware of the 18 months old battle that has been waged to keep these two services open.

The Friends have already provided a purpose built Day Centre, a new Physiotherapy Department, a new Kitchen and new Casualty as well as many other items for the Hospital which you will see listed if you have one of our News Letters.

Who are the Friends? Well they are you, and all the folk who have supported us for so long and helped us to do all the above things and now we look forward to your support again this year and especially at the Hospital Fete on August 27th 1984 (Bank Holiday Monday).

Every October the Matron of the Hopsital holds an Open Day — when everyone is very welcome to come and look around their Hospital — please look out for the advertisements and come and see what your money has been spent on.

If you are new to the area and would like to know more about the Friends, please come along to the Hospital Shop, which is at the entrance to the Out Patients Department and the helpers will be glad to tell you more, or contact Mrs G. Knight on Crowborough 5793. (Hon. Secretary).

We thank Crowborough Rotary Club for so kindly allowing us a page in their book.

JOHN A. BAILEY

Started marathon running in 1983 with the London followed by the Glasgow and Leeds events. Best time 3 hrs. 56 mins.

Age 40 running in veteran class this year.

Born and brought up in Crowborough attended local schools and colleges of further education. Governor of Beacon School.

Formally a regular Royal Marine Commando Instructor and served overseas including Brunei, Borneo and Aden, also seconded to the Arab army in Muscat and Oman. Instructor to Jimmy Savile for the Royal Marines endurance course.

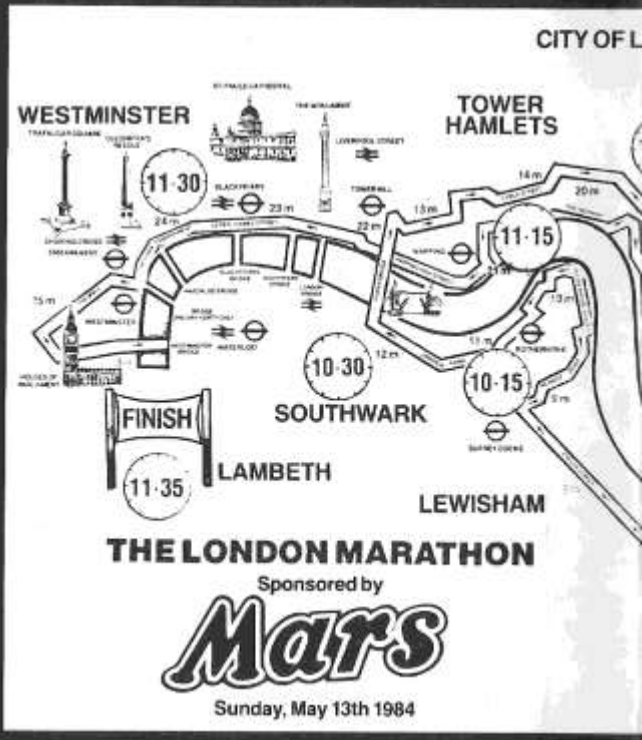
Represented the Royal Marines at home and abroad in international orienteering events. In 1968 came 7th in the first 50 miles mountain marathon event organised by the North Western Orienteering Association. Passed member of the Royal Marine Parachute Club.

Present sporting and recreational interests include skiing, swimming, running and mountain walking/climbing in wild country. Currently an assessor for the Duke of Edinburgh Award schemes expendition. Member of Crowborough Rotary.

Partner in the Estate Agent firm of Walter & Bailey being a Chartered Surveyor and holding a Bachelor of Science Degree in Surveying.

Parish and District Councillor representing the latter on the Greater London and South East Council for Sport and Recreation as well as the Wealden Sports Council.

Originator of the proposal for compehensive leisure and recreation facilities at the Goldsmith Ground.



ROGER GORRINGE

Age 45 come September. Married with two sons.

He is a freelance illustrator of wildlife and plant books, wildlife painter and graphic arts teacher.

Hobbies include beekeeping and photography.

Attracted by the idea of running a London Marathon (just once) he joined Crowborough Athletic Club, 18 months ago. Since then has run in several fun runs, a ½ Marathon and a couple of 10 mile events. His ambition is to finish on the 13th, raise some cash for charity then hang his running shoes up with the medal. However, the feeling of well being the running has produced may make the last part the most difficult for him!

◄ DAVID BEALE

Born and went to school in London.

Has lived in Crowborough for 13 years. He has 3 children 1 at Beacon and 2 at St. Marys.

Has always enjoyed athletics and after watching the 1st London Marathon decided to try and get in the next. Did so and has run 3 others since with a best time of 3 hrs. 14 mins.

▲ MARGARET LOCKLEY

Born in Warrington, Merseyside in 1947. Went to college in Hull and after taught in Liverpool and the Midlands before moving to Luton where she worked as Asst. Manager at the Regional Sports Centre.

Married David Lockley in 1978. Went to live in the Isle of Man for 4 years then moved to Crowborough in September 1983 to open 'The Fit Inn' gymnasium in Queens Road. Joined Crowborough Athletic Club shortly after moving to the town.

RUNNING RECORD

1st in the Womens First National Marathon held in the Isle of Wight in 1978.
1st in the first Womens International Marathon held in Milton Keynes in 1978.
6th in the New York Marathon in 1978.
6th English lady in the 1981 London Marathon in a time of 2 hours 47 mins.
3rd English lady in the 1982 London Marathon in a time of 2 hours 46 mins.
7th English lady in the 1983 London Marathon in a time of 2 hours 42 mins.
6th lady in Tokyo Marathon in 1982.
6th lady in Orange Bowl Marathon in 1983.
8th lady in Sydney Marathon in 1983.
1st lady in Tadworth '10' in Jan. 1984
1st lady in Barcelona Marathon in March 1984 in a time of 2 hours 41 mins.
1st English lady in Amsterdam ½ Marathon in April 1984

Now training hard to gain a place in UK Womens Marathon team for the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles.

CHRIS HANNAM

Age 42. Born in Beckenham, Kent, but has lived in Crowborough for 17 years. Very keen on all sports and has only just retired from playing soccer, having played for Crowborough Athletic F.C. for the past 16 seasons — to concentrate on running.

Actually took up jogging when he entered his two teenage sons and wife in the Sunday Times Fun Run 3 years ago.

Entered and finished the London Marathon last year in a time of 3 hours 28 mins and would be delighted to repeat that performance this year.

Joined Crowborough Athletic Club when it was formed and has participated in most of the Clubs activities since then, from a 1 mile Olympic appeal run on the track to ½ Marathons.

◄ MAUREEN GIBBS

Born in London. Forty nine on Marathon day. Married and moved to Sussex 25 years ago. Resident in Crowborough 15 years. Husband George Civil Engineer. Two children Loraine married and living in Uckfield and Mark.

Started running two years ago to keep husband company. Joined Crowborough A C. when the club was founded in September 1982. Encouraged by other club members entered several ½ Marathons and 10 mile road races. Competed in the London last year finished in 4½ hours. Hope to better the time this year.

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Crowborough

a little of the past

Crowborough Cross from London Road, long before the days of traffic signals.

Nobody is quite sure about the origins of Crowborough's name, and for nearly 600 years nobody could decide how to spell it.

Crotesbergh, Croteslyve, Cranbergh, Crowbergh, Crowbarrow — all these variations appeared between 1150 and 1563. Somebody managed to get it right in 1734.

Theories about its meaning vary from 'resort of crows' to 'hill of iron'. The latest view, put forward by a local historian, is that the name derives from the old English word croh, meaning saffron. Bog asphodel, a plant which grows around Crowborough, was once used as a saffron dye; the clay subsoil is the same colour; and old Crowburians were known as 'yaller-bellies'.

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This may have had something to do with the jaundiced reaction of writers who have mentioned Crowborough over the past 400 years. In the 16th century it was referred to as 'the lord's waste'. Eighty years ago a Sussex author recorded that he found the new villas which had sprung up on the slopes of the Beacon so distasteful that he declined to stay in or write about the place; and in the late 1940's another author condemed the town as 'a desecration of a fine hill site'.

But we who daily breathe the bracing air of the second highest point in East Sussex and not the miserable miasmas of the marshlands regard such libels with a kindly tolerance.

Early history is tantalisingly sketchy, but some of the names which appeared in medieval documents relating to the Hundred of Rotherfield, Crowborough's mother parish, live on. There was John le Horne — Hourne Farm, Steel Cross? John le Hurt — Hurtis Hill? and John de Inchrede. Inchreed is a Jarvis Brook place name.

The Romans must have looked across the Weald to the Downs from 'the lord's waste' around Crowborough Beacon, in later centuries a vital link in the national chain of watch-fires. Their coins have been found at Rotherfield and at Heron's Ghyll, not far from where the Roman road from London to Lewes runs arrow-straight across Ashdown Forest.

Britons and Saxons are supposed to have fought a mighty battle at Slaugham Ghyll on the golf course, and an armistice is said to have been arranged at a nearby spring — the Lord's Well, of Lordswell Lane. The Sussex iron industry left its mark in cinder beds in the Warren and the remains of a furnace at Jarvis Brook.

Modern Crowborough began to take shape in the 18th century bequest of Sir Henry Fermor, a wealthy ironmaster who lived at Walsh Manor. He left £1500 to build a church — now All Saints — and the school which bears his name "for the use and benefit of the very ignorant and heathenish people", and £4000 to buy trust land.

Other sums were invested and the interest applied to the repair of the buildings, the salaries of the parson and schoolmaster, and for buying wool, hemp, and books for some of the children.

"Ignorant and heathenish" was probably a fair description of the people at this time, foresters who lived by charcoal burning, poaching, and especially smuggling. It used to be said that a man and a packhorse could travel from the coast at Birling Gap to Crowborough through the 'hollow ways', old, overgrown tracks tunneling across the countryside, without being seen.

Certainly the Crowborough smugglers had a reputation with the

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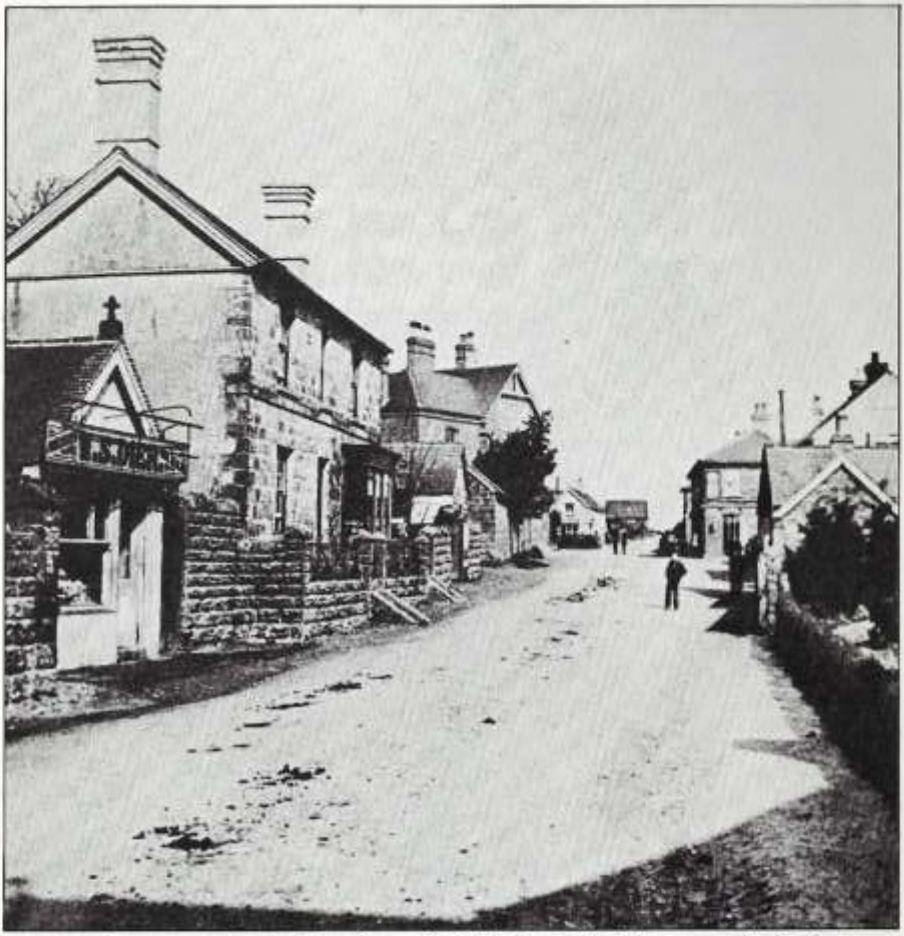

A 19th century view of Crowborough High Street, looking towards the Cross from point near New Road.

Excisemen, and several of the lads of the village were among the last gang to be arrested — at Hadlow Down, of all places.

One of the first of a long line of developers to be attracted to Crowborough was Mr Edward Howis, a wealthy businessman who bought the Warren estate. Among other things, he built the New Mill on the edge of Ashdown Forest near Friars Gate where the flour for Queen Victoria's wedding cake was ground.

In the 1830's Crowborough boasted a butcher, a grocer, a shoemaker, and a shop on Chapel Green which sold greengroceries and draperies. There was no Post Office. Crowborough people had to collect their letters from Rotherfield, an economical arrangement which might have an alarming appeal today.

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But there were plenty of pubs, most of them happily still with us — the Crow and Gate, the Blue Anchor, the Cross, the White Hart, and the Boars Head. There was a windmill in Mill Lane. The only building on the road from the Cross to White Hill was Postern Cottage, which still stands, and somewhere near South View Road there was a workhouse.

Later in the 19th century Crowborough began to devlop into a mini-resort, stimulated by the coming of the railway in 1868, by the activities of Dr Leeson Prince, who publicised the area's health-giving properties, and the writings of Richard Jefferies, the naturalist-author who lived for a time at The Downs, London Road.

Hotels, most of which have now vanished, were built. The golf

One of the popular picture postcards of Crowborough which were sold in the early 1900's.

course was laid out in 1895. The hospital was built in 1900, and all the time the population continued to increase. In 1905 Crowborough separated from Rotherfield and became a civil parish in its own right.

The 1914-18 war took its toll but established Crowborough as a military training centre, a role it still fulfils. The creator of Sherlock Holmes, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who lived at Windlesham on Sheep Plain, formed a Volunteer Corps, a forerunner of the Home Guard; and Crowborough kept the home fires burning with Forces canteens, comforts funds and the like. It was a pattern which would be repeated 25 years later.

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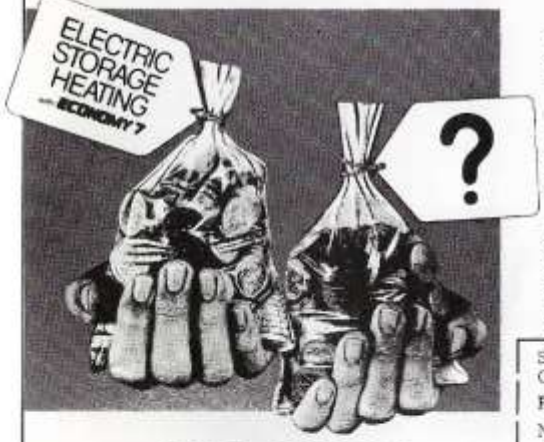

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Another early picture of the High Street, with the Cross Hotel in the distance and New Road turning down in the centre foreground.

Beween the wars development continued. In the 1930's Crowborough became the headquarters of Uckfield Rural District Council; the town centre acquired more shops and a new cinema. But it was still a village.

The 1939-45 war was brought to the doorstep by the Battle of Britain, bombs scattered indiscriminately over the parish, and VI's, one of which killed a number of Canadian soldiers in a camp near the golf course. An American bomber crashed near White Hill.

Life gradually returned to quiet normality from 1945 onwards, but the 1950's and 1960's saw the beginnings of the modern housing estate which have made Crowborough the fastest-growing town in East Sussex. Pleasant View, Harecombe, the Herne, and now the Blackness scheme have filled in the gaps left by the developers of earlier years.

Woolworths came to the High Street. A new fire station was built in Beacon Road. The cinema became a supermarket. The Friends of Crowborough Hospital began a building programme which extended the little cottage hospital far beyond the dreams of its founders; and group medical practices became established. Waitrose developed the old VFM Motors site in Croft Road, the 100-bedroomed Beacon Hotel which dominated the hilltop for so long was demolished, making way for more new homes — and now the High Street has a new supermarket and shopping precinct.

Eighty years ago a local author wrote: "Crowborough is yearning to grow" — and it has.

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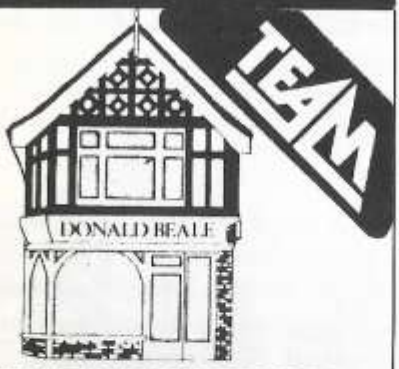

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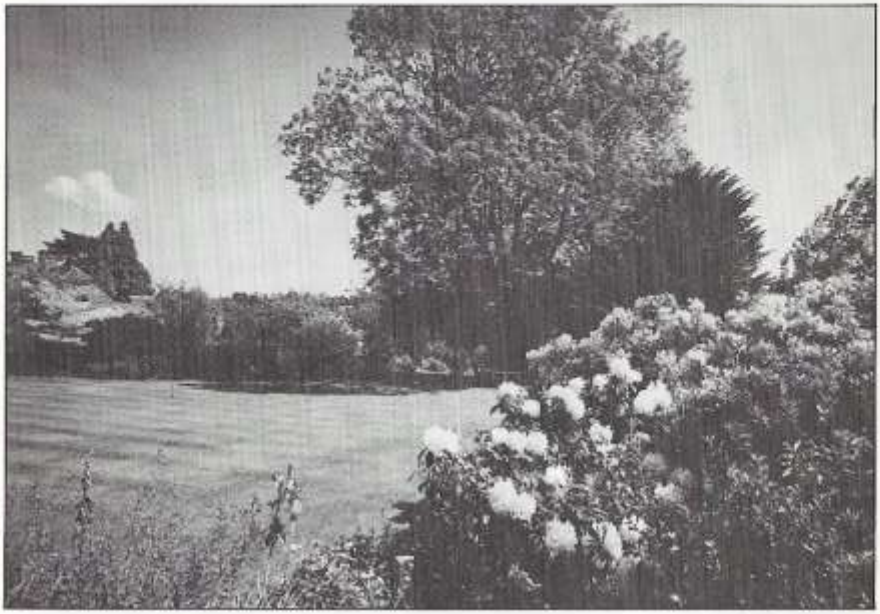
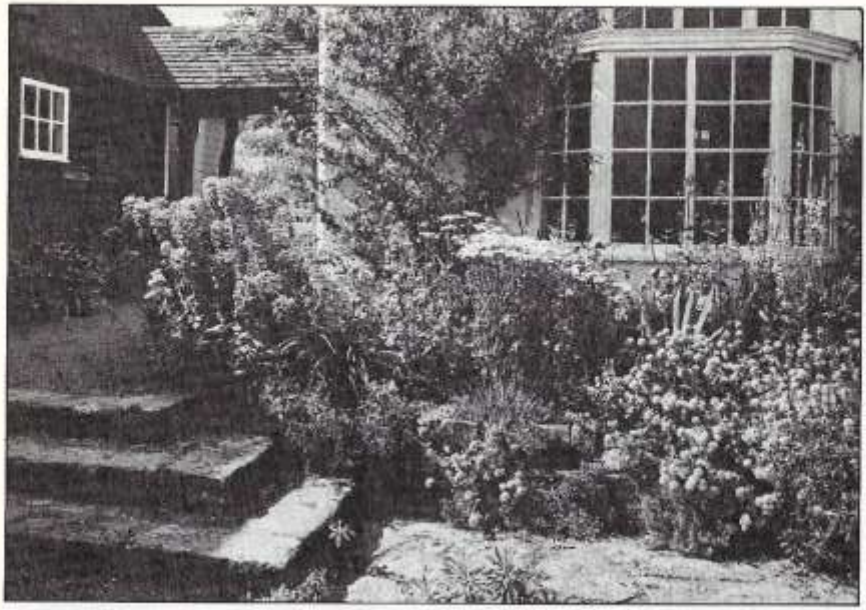
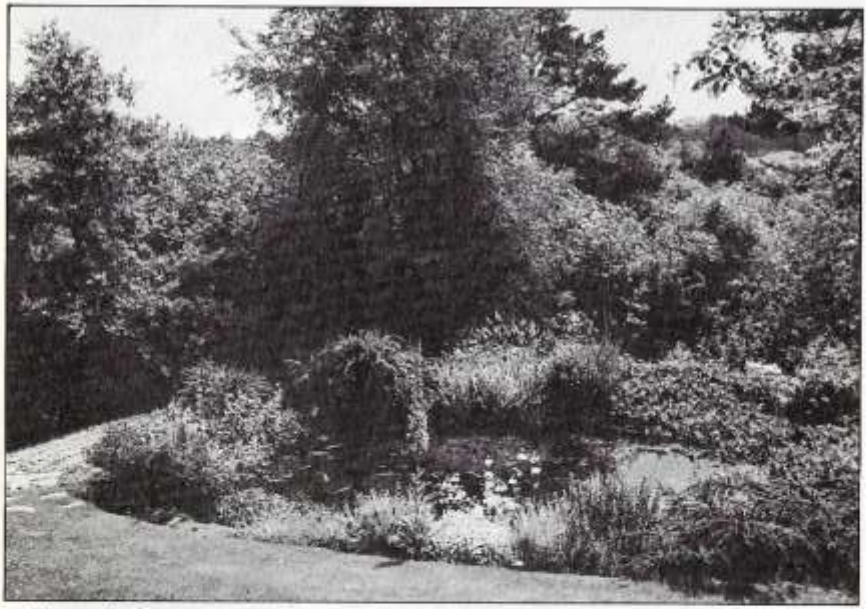


This 2-acre garden surrounding a XVII farmhouse, comes as a surprise to Crowborough residents who visit it for the first time, but not to those American, South African and European horticulturists who visit it regularly and regard it as the highlight of their tour of English gardens.

It has been designed and created since 1967 from virtually nothing but three derelict orchards, but the general impression is that it is a typical English garden that has been here for centuries, and the lower and grass slopes that bind the fluid shape of the lay-out together and which are so much admired are, in fact, only the result of continual mowing and feeding of the original meadows through which the cows roamed, and without any additional turfing or seeding.

The main interest lies in the unique lay-out and the vast range of plants that are grown, which give a continual colourful picture and plant contrasts from May until September. The design is based on comparatively formal rectangular lines immediately surrounding the old house and barn, spreading gradually to informal concentric curves, which although binding the garden into one integrated pattern, still allows views and vistas from any point at which one stands.





The whole site is on a very considerable slope to the South, and what is probably the focal point of the whole design is the informal long narrow pool constructed across the slope in the natural clay and bounded on the lower side by a most attractive curving brick path, and glowing the whole season with aquatic and marginal plants in great variety.

The botanical interest is aroused by the very large range of plants which cover almost all types capable of surviving a normal English climate — rhododendrons, lilies and other woodland plants, aquatic and marginal perennials, alpines and dry stone and brick walls, a fairly wide range of shrubs and small trees and, of course, a very large selection of herbaceous perennials, which are the real backbone of the garden, and which cause endless comment and questions from visitors all through the summer. Plantquerier (conspicious by its absence, however, is any form of summer bedding) are discussed with pleasure by Mr. Furniss who is invariably in the garden when it is open, as is Mrs. Furniss, who also has considerable knowledge and supervises home-made teas for visitors, which are much appreciated.

The garden is open in aid of The National Trust and The National Gardens Scheme on the following Sundays from 2.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. — May 20, 27, June 10, 24, July 8, 22, August 5, 12, and to Horticultural Societies and other groups on any week-end between the above dates.

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